

AMENDMENT AND PRESENTATION OF CLAIMS

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Please replace all prior claims in the present application with the following claims, in which claims 1-6 are currently amended.

1. (Currently Amended) Attenuator An attenuator system (10) for adjusting the output power of an HF signal source (1), the attenuator system comprising:
characterised in that
an electronic attenuator; (5) with
a mechanical changeover switch at the an input-end of the electronic attenuator; and
a mechanical changeover switch at the an output-end of the electronic attenuator,
wherein the electronic attenuator (3,4) is arranged between the signal source (1) and an output (2), and that these the mechanical changeover switches are configured for
switching to a first can be switched in such a manner, that, in one switching position (I),
wherein the electronic attenuator (5) is connected between the signal source (1) and the output (2), and in the other a second switching position (II), wherein a direct bypass line (6) is connected between the signal source (1) and the output (2).
2. (Currently Amended) Attenuator An attenuator system according to claim 1, wherein
characterised in that
the direct bypass line (6) is formed as a mechanical attenuator, which can be is switched by means of via mechanical switches between several a plurality of attenuation values.
3. (Currently Amended) Attenuator An attenuator system according to claim 1 or 2,
wherein

characterised in that

the mechanical changeover switches (3,4) are bi-stable coaxial relay changeover switches.

4. (Currently Amended) **Attenuator** An attenuator system according to claim 1 or 2,
wherein

characterised in that

the mechanical changeover switches (3,4) are transfer switches.

5. (Currently Amended) **Attenuator** An attenuator system according to claim 1 any one of
the preceding claims, wherein

characterised in that

~~the a switchgear for the mechanical changeover switches (3,4) is connected coupled to~~
~~the output-power setting mechanism of the signal source (1) in such a manner that~~
wherein, above a predetermined output power, the bypass line (6) is connected between
the signal source (1) and output (2), and below ~~this~~ the predetermined output power, the
electronic attenuator (5) is connected between the signal source (1) and output (2).

6. (Currently Amended) **Attenuator** An attenuator system according to claim 1 any one of
the preceding claims, wherein

characterised in that

~~the a switchgear of the mechanical changeover switches (3,4) is coupled connected in~~
~~such a manner to a an over-voltage detector (9) assigned to the output (2) of the signal~~
source (1), that wherein, if a predetermined permitted level is exceeded at the output (2),

the mechanical changeover switch (4) at the output-end disconnects the electronic attenuator (5) from the output (2), and the mechanical changeover switch (3) at the input-end connects the electronic attenuator (5) to the signal source (1).